



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

June 15, 2005

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Area Program/LME Directors  
Area Program/LME Finance Officers

**From:** Wanda Mitchell, Team Leader, Budget and Finance Team  
Flo Stein, Chief, Community Policy Management Section

**Re:** Enhancement of Geriatric Specialty Team Funding

Thank you for your work in supporting the Geriatric Specialty Team Initiative. This is to announce that effective July 1, 2005, the Division will provide 100% of the funding to support each approved position that has been funded to staff the Geriatric Specialty Team (GST) Initiative. Individual allocation letters to participating LMEs will be generated shortly.

As you are aware, in the current fiscal year the Division has supported approximately 80% of the costs of funding of the approved positions on these teams, with the expectation that these teams would be able to bill Medicaid for the remaining 20% of the funding necessary for annual program operation. Because of the particular mix of services and populations, the teams have not been able to generate this anticipated additional funding required for support of these positions. Positions have been dedicated to providing support, training and consultation to staff in nursing homes, adult care homes and family care homes across the State.

The support of these teams have been instrumental in enabling more of these older residents with mental illness to remain in the community. The teams have provided education and training to community partners such as DSS and Senior Centers. It is the intent of the Division that these teams continue to support staff in these facilities and their community partners.

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom  
Executive Leadership Team  
Management Leadership Team

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Patrice Roesler  
MH Commission Chair  
Coalition 2001 Chair

SCFAC Chair  
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WM,FS/dm

